

The details of its management, reference is made to the annual report of the Commissioner.

I have dwelt thus fully on our domestic affairs because of their transcendent importance. Under any circumstances, our great extent of territory and variety of climate, producing almost everything that is necessary for the wants, and even the comforts of man, make it singularly independent of the various policies of foreign Powers, and protect us against every temptation to "entangling alliances," while at the present moment the re-establishment of harmony, and the strength that comes from harmony, will be our best security against "nations who feel power and forget right."

When on the organization of our Government, under the Constitution, the first inaugural address to the two Houses of Congress he said to them, and through them to the country and to mankind, that "the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty and the destiny of the republican model of government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked on the experiment intrusted to the American people."

Experience has proved its sufficiency in peace and in war; it has vindicated its authority through dangers and afflictions, and sudden and terrible emergencies, which would have crushed any system that had been less firmly grounded in the hearts of the people. It is the inauguration of Washington the foreign relations of the country were few, and its trade was repressed by hostile regulations; now, all the civilized nations of the globe welcome our commerce, and their Governments profess towards us amity.

When our country felt its way hesitatingly along an untried path with States, which were bound together by rapid means of communication, to be hardly known to one another, and with historic traditions extending over very few years; now intercourse between the States is swift and intimate; the experience of centuries has been crowded into a few generations and has created an intense, indistinguishable nationality.

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These questions are of such moment that they must have commanded the attention of the great powers, and are so interwoven with the peace and interest of every one of them as to have insured an impartial decision. I regret to inform you that Great Britain declined the arbitration, but, on the other hand, invited us to the formation of a joint commission to settle mutual claims between the two countries, from which those for the depositions before mentioned should be excluded.

The United States did not present this object as an impeachment of the good faith of a power which was professing the most friendly dispositions, but as involving questions of public law, of which the settlement is essential to the peace of a nation; and although pecuniary reparations to Great Britain would have followed incidentally on a decision against Great Britain, such compensation was not their primary object. They had a higher motive, and it was in the interest of peace and justice to establish important principles of international law. The correspondence will be placed before you.

The ground on which the British Ministers have insisted is substantially that the municipal law of a nation, and the domestic interpretation of that law, are the measure of its duty as a neutral, and I feel bound to declare my opinion before you and before the world, that justification cannot be sustained before the tribunal of nations. At the same time I do not wish to give the impression that I am in any way hostile to the British Ministry. For the future, friendship between the two countries must rest on the basis of mutual justice.

From the moment of the establishment of our free Constitution, the civilized world has been convulsed by revolutions in the interests of democracy or of monarchy; but through all those revolutions the United States have wisely and firmly refused to become propagandists of republicanism. It is the only government suited to our condition; but we have never sought to impose it on others, and we have consistently followed the advice of Washington to recommend it only by the careful preservation and prudent use of the blessing. During all the intervening period of the policy of European powers and of the United States has, on the whole, been harmonious. Twice indeed, rumors of the invasion of some parts of America, in the interest of monarchy, have prevailed; twice my predecessors have had occasion to announce the views of this nation in respect to such interference.

On both occasions the remonstrance of the United States was respected, from a deep conviction on the part of the European governments, that the system of non-interference and mutual abstention from propagandism was the true rule for the two hemispheres. Since those times we have advanced in wealth and power, but we retain the same purpose to leave the nations of Europe to choose their own forms of government. This consistent moderation may justly demand a corresponding moderation. We should regard it as a great calamity to ourselves,

to the cause of good government, and to the peace of the world, should any European power challenge the American people, as it were, to the defence of republicanism against foreign interference.

We cannot foresee and are unwilling to consider what opportunities might present themselves, which would enable us to offer to protect ourselves against designs inimical to our form of government. The United States desire to act in the future as they have ever acted heretofore; they will never be driven from that course but by the aggression of European Powers; and we rely on the wisdom and justice of those Powers to respect the system of non-interference which has so long been sanctioned by time, and which by its good results, has approved itself to both continents.

The correspondence between the United States and France, in reference to questions which have become subjects of discussion between the two Governments, will, at a proper time be laid before Congress.

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The Bedford Gazette.

Friday Morning, December 13, 1862.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.

There is an old saw about the rower looking one way and pulling another, which might almost, yet not quite, fairly be applied to the character of President Johnson's first annual message. The face of the chief magistrate is turned toward the beacon-lights set up by the old Democratic mariners who navigated the stormy ocean of politics in years gone by, but, though he seems to desire that the ship of state may not deviate from the course which they indicate, he trusts the helm too much to the hands of those who steer in the wrong direction, and we fear us much he will yet permit the good old ship to drift upon the treacherous rocks of the Black Sea toward which he seems to be unconsciously sailing. To drop the figure, the President certainly adheres to what is vulgarly known as his "reconstruction policy." He re-iterates, what he has often declared, that the States in insurrection, did not, by the insurgent acts of their people (nor could they by any act whatever) dissolve their constitutional, or political, relation to the other States of the Union; that they were never out of the Union, legally speaking; and that, therefore, having performed certain acts necessary to assure the Executive and Congress of their submission to the Federal Government, they are now STATES IN THE UNION, just as they were prior to the breaking out of the war. Just here, we think, the President should have recommended Congress to admit to seats the members of that body elected by the people of the Southern States. He should have made the admission of those Congressmen a measure of his administration. He should have said to Congress, these men are your peers, and, if legally elected, you are bound to admit them. It is true the President hints as much, when he says,

"The amendment to the Constitution being adopted, it would remain for the States, whose powers have been so long in abeyance, to resume their places in the two branches of the National Legislature, and thereby complete the work of restoration."

But it is not the business of Presidents to hint. Plain people cannot understand how the Federal Executive can have the courage to hang people without trial by jury, and yet fear to speak his sentiments to a rump Congress. The President might as well have spoken boldly upon this subject. The Radicals understand him, at any rate. They have no respect for him on account of his timidity, and in their Congressional caucus they spat upon his suggestion that "it is for you, fellow citizens of the Senate and for you, fellow citizens of the House of Representatives, to judge, each of you for yourselves, of the elections, returns, and qualifications of your own members."

It is, indeed, a fact, that the Constitution provides to this effect, but what care the Radicals for the Constitution, or for the matter of that, what care they for even the President? Their caucus resolution recommending the appointment of a joint committee of nine Members and six Senators, to pass upon the right of Members and Senators from Southern states to seats in either house, is a direct assault upon this doctrine of the Constitution and the President. By the operations of that committee, "you, fellow citizens of the Senate and you, fellow citizens of the House," cannot "judge, each of you for yourselves, of the election, &c., of your members." The nine members of the committee from the House could determine who should or should not, have seats in the Senate; and the six members of the committee from the Senate, could decide who should have seats in the House. Thus it will be seen, that the Radicals do not heed the President's mild suggestion, and that so far as his influence upon their conduct is concerned, he might as well have spoken with a little more positiveness and decision.

There is much in the message which we heartily endorse. There is much in it which we know our political opponents cannot approve. The theory of the inextinguishability of the States, so clearly set forth by the President, lies at the very foundation of our political system. It is the corner-stone of Republican liberty, and, therefore, the basis of the Democratic organization. It is the very opposite of the doctrine of Thaddeus Stevens and the centralists, to wit, that the states lately in insurrection, are conquered territory and must be governed, as such, by Congress. This is the great, overshadowing topic of the message and finding the President right upon this, we can afford to overlook his failure to come up to our ideas of propriety on subjects of minor importance. At all events, taking the message as a whole, "reconstruction," "negroes," "Monroe doctrine," "currency," and all, it is a great improvement on any similar document, given to the public within the last four years. Therefore, let us be thankful.

The official vote of the State, at the recent election, was for Campbell, Abolitionist, 287,967; for Linton, Democrat, 215,981; Campbell's majority, 21,986. This includes the fraudulent returns of soldiers' votes in Philadelphia, acknowledged by even the Abolition papers to have been forged, which being deducted, would make Campbell's majority about 19,000, or nearly 2,000 less than Lincoln's, last year.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives at Washington, has refused to place the name of Gen. Crofthor, as well as that of Gen. Kooztz, upon the roll, as member elect for this Congressional District. The case has gone to the Committee on Elections. There seems to be "quite a pretty quarrel-stands," between the friends of Gen. Grant and those of Ex. Gen. Butler. It appears that Gen. Grant always had a sovereign contempt for the hero of Big Bethel and that his want of appreciation of the superb military talents of the Massachusetts favorite, was increased to such a degree by the defeat at Bermuda Hundred and the failure of the first expedition against Fort Fisher, that it forced itself into language in the report of the Lieutenant General, just published. Of Gen. Butler's management at Bermuda Hundred, Gen. Grant speaks in the most contemptuous terms. He says that Beuregard held him as tight as if he had "corked him up in a bottle." In regard to the Fort Fisher affair, he tells us that he was under the impression that Gen. Weitzel was to be commanding officer of the expedition and that he was not aware of Gen. Butler's being in command until he was advised of the failure of the attack! On the other hand, Gen. Butler is reported to have said that he has "a rod in pickle" for the Lieut. General. What kind of a rod it is, time will show. One thing is certain, the Democrats are now sustained by Gen. Grant in all they ever said against Butler's military incapacity. Had their demand for his removal been listened to, the war might have been ended a year before it was and hundreds of thousands of lives and millions of treasure saved to the country. Perhaps some people can "see it" now.

We would like to have the opinion of some of our so-called "Republican" contemporaries on that part of President Johnson's message in which he discusses the question of conferring suffrage upon the negro. He says, "A concession of the elective franchise to the freedmen, by act of the President of the United States, must have been extended to all colored men, wherever found, and so must have established a change of suffrage in the Northern, Middle and Western States, not less than in the Southern and Southwestern. Such an act would have created a new class of voters, and would have been an assumption of power by the President which nothing in the Constitution or laws of the United States would have warranted."

Do you believe this doctrine, Messrs. Abolitionists? If not, have you the courage to say so? The people want to know whether you are for Andy Johnson, or against him. Last fall you professed to support him and you managed to juggle through the campaign in such a manner as induced many of your party to believe that you did support the President and that you antagonized those who demanded that he should, in violation of his oath to support the Constitution, give the freed negroes of the South the right of suffrage. What say you now? Are you for the President, on this subject, or against him? Let us hear from you, else people will begin to think you are afraid to answer.

The only excuse (and oh! how lame and wretched it is) which the abolitionists are able to conjure up for their failure to make good their charges against John P. Reed, Jr., is, that the jury which acquitted him, was composed of Democrats! Will they please name any one of that jury who they believe perjured himself? Come, now, leave off your "glittering generalities" and "come down to dots!"

FOR THE GAZETTE.

A COMEDY OF ERRORS.

There was quite a sensation at "Brandy Station"—not the Brandy Station in the Old Dominion, but one in another state that never succeeded. On "last first day," some gentlemen of leisure, first say a great many things besides their prayers, and do some things more than serving God and saving their country, had met as usual to recount their moral and intellectual achievements and deeds of knight errantry, to masticate tobacco, smoke cigars, pipes, &c. On comparing notes, these men of steady habits and profound intelligence thought they discovered that U. T. had, without their knowledge or consent, given them a gratuitous ride in the "Car of Progress," on the "Keystone Rail Road." All was consternation, alarm, commotion—a perfect tempest in a teapot. A ride in the gently moving "Car of Progress" was not to be so much objected to; but to be drawn over the track by the vile, shrieking, copper-lined engine GAZETTE, was more than their sensitive nature could endure. The cream of the joke is, U. T. did not suspect that these gentlemen patronized the "Car of Progress," but supposed they travelled on the old broad line which was never severed or destroyed, and needs no car of progress or reconstruction. Something must be done to punish U. T. for his fanciful offense. As all men, women and children, have an instinctive dread of snakes, these considerate gentlemen thought it would be convenient to raise the cry of "Copperhead." A choice specimen of humanity volunteered his services, to perform this work of benevolence. Another grand blunder! U. T. never had any affiliation with the "Copperhead," "Woollyhead" or "Black Snake" tribes. His record is pure and above suspicion. During the dark days of the Republic, his motto was, "The Union, the Constitution and the Enforcement of the Laws;" in connection with the precepts of still higher authority, "I submit to the powers which be;" "Render unto Cesar the things which are Cesar's." Moreover, he believes that men who violate law should be punished according to law, and that persecution or proscription, for opinion's sake, where no law is violated, is the essence of tyranny. If that is treason, or copperheadism, gentlemen may make the best of it. Any member of the post-board profession, or any other profession or vocation, who says that U. T. is wanting in "loyalty," or is not "all right on the goose question," lies—under a great mistake. After mature deliberation, and much

interchange of thought, the "Brandy Station" assembly came to the grave conclusion that U. T. must be brought into subjection on the same principle that Lee was forced to evacuate Richmond, by having his supplies cut off. Another error! It is presumable that these gentlemen later-day saints have enough to answer for already, without burdening their consciences with the additional guilt of subjecting an inoffensive old man to the excruciating tortures of starvation, in the "Shadow of the mountain."

Moreover, U. T., though not a military tactician, rather than submit to such a dubious experiment, would, in imitation of another great general (who was worsted in a fight of several days' continuance) change his base, by an admirable strategic movement. In short, such a comedy of errors, probably, has not been enacted since the good old times of Will Shakespeare. U. T. did not intend to disquiet the nerves of any one. It was foolish on the part of the scientific gentlemen, to let their pots boil over before the fire was put under. U. T. will agree to march with all who will march with him in ways of righteousness, and keep step to the music of the Union. But, as for taking the way train, on the downward track to Brimstone Station, he must say, with all deference, gentlemen, please excuse me.

UNCLE TOBY.

SHADOW OF THE MOUNTAIN, Dec. 7, 1862.

The proceedings of Congress and the President. The people of this country have been indulging the hope for the last few months that the war was being closed up, its wounds were being healed, and that we were about to emerge from the shock of domestic convulsions to peace and harmony. They believed, as speaker Colfax said in his opening address to Congress Monday, that "peace rejoiced in the folds of our land." They thought, from the universal support given to President Johnson and the eulogiums passed upon him and his policy by all parties, during the late elections, that we had entered upon a new and an astonishing period of harmony. In fact, there was no other issue but this. Both Republicans and Democrats claimed the President, and made him and his policy their platform. The former were particularly positive and earnest in their appeals to the people on this; and it was on that ground, doubtless, they obtained such an overwhelming success over their opponents. It was the doubt which existed as to the sincerity of the Democrats in professing to support the President that created them, and confidence in the professions of the Republicans that gave them the victory. At the time the President was making as much progress as possible to restore the Southern States and to have their representatives ready to take seats in Congress his name was the banner and the battle cry of the elections. Yes, many of the Republican members now sitting in Congress triumphantly carried the banner of Andy Johnson.

That is one side of the picture. Now let us look at the other. The smoke of the contest is hardly cleared away; for many days, or weeks, at farthest, have not passed since the election. The President has not changed in the meantime, except that he has been more urgent and emphatic in demanding the South such measures as will satisfy the North. Yet in the face of these facts we see a sudden assault made upon Mr. Johnson's policy by the very party which claimed him, and by the very men who obtained their seats through using his name and pretending to support him. They did not even wait till the President could inform them by message what he was doing and proposing to do, or what was the condition of affairs. A decent respect to the Chief Magistrate and for the views he might express in the mode prescribed by the constitution was the least that might have been expected from those who claimed to be his party and who so lately professed to be his warm supporters. It is the first Congress, we believe, that ever acted in such a manner, and the act shows plainly the revolutionary character of that body. Never in the history of the country had the chief of the nation such important matter to communicate and submit to Congress, that the very members of that body should be so much interested and so eager to get up official information from him, and never was careful deliberation more required. Yet the first day—the first hours of the session—before the President had time to send his message, these men began to legislate on the most important questions, and that in a manner directly in conflict with his policy. Why this unseemly haste? Why this disrespect to the Chief Magistrate? To the President? We suppose Thaddeus Stevens, Sumner, Wade, Wilson and other revolutionary radicals of that stripe tell the reason; but we think the greater part of the conservative Republicans can not.

Looking at both sides of this picture we do not hesitate to say that there never was a greater fraud committed upon a people than upon their constituents. It is the most gross and unscrupulous fraud that this Congress have committed—that is, judging from their conduct at the commencement of the session. We can only hope that the majority have been deceived themselves—carried away, as it were, in an unguarded moment by an artful and unscrupulous conspiracy, and that they may get out of the trap into which they have fallen. The whole proceedings—the snap judgment that was taken, the concert of action in both houses, the leaders of the movement, as Sumner, Thad Stevens, Ben Wade, and Wilson; the radical revolutionary measures initiated and the secrecy maintained till the last moment—all show that it was a matured conspiracy against the President and his policy. It reminds us of the convention during the French Revolution. That is the nearest parallel in history we know of. Our Jacobins are as rabid, impracticable and proscriptive as the Jacobins of the French Revolution were, and if allowed to have their own way they will plunge the country into the same bloody anarchy as their prototypes did France. We hear with pleasure, however, that some of the members of the House—and the members of this great State are particularly mentioned—are alarmed at the false step they have been dragged into, and will not follow the lead of our American Marats, Outhons and Robespierres any farther.

Congress, it is true, can refuse to admit members from the Southern States; for such refusal is not within its powers, and a majority rules. The constitutionality of rejecting the members from whole States, and of the present proceedings of Congress on the subject, are very questionable; but the President has no power over the matter. He has no right to veto the States to that point, but all their local State machinery in motion, withdraw the military, and leave them in the enjoyment of local self-government. He ought, and we think he will, pursue the even

tenor of his way in restoring them. He can perform his duty, if Congress does not perform its duty. If that body be revolutionary and anarchical, he can be conservative. A conflict between the policy of the Executive and Congress on this subject would be very unfortunate, would embarrass our finances, paralyze our industry, and bring many evils upon us, but would not necessarily be the worst of evils. The country would be kept disturbed and unsettled during the next elections. Should the Southern States be kept out of this Congress it is quite evident the next Congress would be chosen of a different character. A new conservative party would grow up and sink the factious that has now attained power by a gross political fraud deeper than ever plumed southerly. If the President pursues his policy, the factious party may be assured the conservative masses will approve of his course, and, as soon as they can speak, will choose a different set of men to sustain him.—N. Y. Herald.

XXXIXth CONGRESS.—FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 1862.

SENATE.

Mr. Wilson, Mass., presented the petition of Francis Cook and 2,500 other colored people, of the District of Columbia, asking the right of suffrage, referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

The President *pro tem*, announced the following committee to act with the House committee on the subject of Mr. Lincoln's death: Messrs. Foot, Yates, Wade, Fessenden, Wilson, Doolittle, Lane, Kansas, Harris, Nesmith, Lane, Indiana, Wiley, Buckalew and Henderson.

Mr. Morgan presented the petition of New York merchants asking the restoration of certain rights on the coast of Florida destroyed during the rebellion. Referred to the committee on Commerce.

Mr. Sumner presented a bill to confirm the land titles granted by Gen. Sherman to colored men on the Sea Islands last winter. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Brown presented a bill to grant lands for the construction of a railroad through Missouri and Arkansas to the Pacific coast by the southern route. Referred to the committee on the Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Stewart presented a bill to establish a mining bureau, which was referred to the committee on Money and Banking.

Mr. Wilson presented a joint resolution to prevent the sale of bonds and scrip of the late so-called confederacy, which was referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Nye gave notice of a bill to change the eastern boundary of the State of Nevada, so as to include additional territory, to be taken from Utah and Arizona, and also of a bill for the speedy completion of the Pacific Railroad.

Mr. Howard introduced a resolution calling upon the President for what information he has in his possession respecting the occupancy of Mexican territory, which was adopted.

At 4 p. m. the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. Blaine, Me., introduced a resolution for the reimbursement to some States of advances made and debts contracted by them for the preservation of the Union. Referred to a special committee of seven members.

Mr. Elliott, Miss., introduced a joint resolution, which was referred to a select committee of fifteen, declaring the condition of States recently in rebellion, and the relation of Congress in regard to them.

Mr. Schenk, Ohio, introduced a joint resolution against any attempt to establish a monarchy in Mexico, and requesting the President to take such steps as will vindicate the American policy of the United States. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Jencks, R. I., introduced a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy. Referred to a special committee.

Mr. Wentworth, Ills., introduced a bill prohibiting the importation of cattle from foreign countries. In order to prevent the spread of disease. Passed.

Mr. Van Horn, Md., offered a preamble and resolution instructing the committee on foreign relations to inquire what means and measures are necessary on the part of the United States to restore to Mexico the free and unrestricted right to a republican government. The previous question not being seconded, the resolution went over.

The Speaker announced the chairmen of the standing committees, as follows: Committee on Commerce, Mr. Washburne, Ill.; on Military Affairs, Mr. Schenk, Ohio; on Naval Affairs, Mr. A. H. Rice, Mass.; on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Banks, Mass.; on Elections, Mr. Dawes, Mass.; on Ways and Means, Mr. Murray, Vt.; on Agriculture, Mr. Stevens, Pa.; on Banking and Currency, Mr. Pomeroy, N. Y.; on the Judiciary, Mr. Wilson, Ind.

The House refused to suspend the rules for the admission of a resolution giving Southern members the privilege of the floor, pending the consideration of their claims to seats.

The resolution of much other business the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1862.

HOUSE.

Mr. Raymond, N. Y., rose to a question of privilege to present the certificate of election of the members of Tennessee.

After passing various resolutions of the House, the House adjourned.

FRESH ARRIVAL.—H. F. Irvine has

Just received another fresh lot of boots and shoes, including six dozens of the famous H. E. Long's make. Call and see his stock.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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ARRIVALS FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOV. 4. 1862.

W. H. Blair, Fallow Field, Crawford Co., Pa.
R. Cunningham, Pittsburgh, Pa.
J. H. Adams, Rich Valley, Allegheny Co., Pa.
J. H. Frick, Pittsburgh, Pa.
G. Weiss, Pittsburgh, Pa.
W. W. Cox, Hope Church, Allegheny Co., Pa.
A. C. Hoffman, Altoona, Pa.
J. T. Woodward, Chalfant, Champaign Co., O.
J. P. Butler, Wurtsburg, Lawrence Co., O.
E. A. Low, Sandy, Columbiana Co., O.
C. Chandler, Columbia Springs, Lick Co., O.
D. Shoop, Zanesville, Allen Co., Ind.
W. E. Leonard, Colliery, Cayuga Co., Pa.
J. A. Graham, Farmington, Adams Co., Pa.
W. S. Springer, Clinton, Allegheny Co., Pa.
J. R. Foster, Adams, Armstrong Co., Pa.
R. Collins, Youngstown, Mahoning Co., O.
J. M. Hamilton, Lewisburg, Jefferson Co., Pa.
M. M. Horton, Well's Tavern, Fulton Co., Pa.
J. C. Spencer, Leno, Ashland Co., O.
J. R. Walker, Huntsville, Logan Co., W. Va.
R. W. Miller, Leno, Ashland Co., O.
Harriet Riley, Pittsburgh, Pa.
J. Wolf, McClure tp., Allegheny Co., Pa.
A. G. McCarty, Allegheny Co., Pa.
L. Warren, Bushingsburg, Bol. Co., O.
W. K. Kiler, Clarion, Greene Co., O.
J. S. Corvinn, Brownsville, Fayette Co., Pa.
J. M. Wiley, Yellow Springs, Greene Co., O.
D. Kirkland, Pittsburgh, Pa.
P. Albright, Ads., Herlin Co., Pa.
A. G. Graham, Farmington, Adams Co., Pa.
J. T. Moss, New Salem, Fayette Co., Pa.
A. H. Neidig, Western, Linn Co., Iowa.
R. W. Moore, Jamestown, Mercer Co., Pa.
J. S. Mosman, Pa.
D. S. Gillis, Kintston, Trumbull Co., O.
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